

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listing, of claims in the application:

1. (Original) A separator for a battery, which is coated with a gel polymer over 40-60% of a total separator area.
2. (Original) The separator of claim 1, wherein the gel polymer is coated on the separator by a gravure coating method.
3. (Original) The separator of claim 1, wherein the separator has a gel polymer-coated part and a non-coated part patterned in a regular shape.
4. (Original) The separator of claim 1, wherein the gel polymer is selected from the group consisting of polyvinylidene fluoride (PVDF); polyethylene glycol diacrylate; polyalkylene glycol diacrylates; polyalkylene glycol dimethacrylates; ether polymers; carbonate polymers; acrylonitrile polymers; copolymers and crosslinked polymers consisting of at least two of them; and fluoropolymers.
5. (Currently Amended) An electrode assembly for a rechargeable lithium battery, which comprises a positive electrode, a negative electrode, and a separator for a battery, wherein as defined in any one of claims 1 to 4 the separator is coated with a gel polymer over 40-60% of a total separator area.
6. (Original) A rechargeable lithium battery comprising an electrode assembly as defined in claim 5, a positive terminal, a negative terminal and an aluminum-laminated film.
7. (New) The rechargeable lithium battery of claim 6, wherein the gel polymer is coated on the separator by a gravure coating method.

8. (New) The rechargeable lithium battery of claim 6, wherein the separator has a gel polymer-coated part and a non-coated part patterned in a regular shape.

9. (New) The rechargeable lithium battery of claim 6, wherein the gel polymer is selected from the group consisting of polyvinylidene fluoride (PVDF); polyethylene glycol diacrylate; polyalkylene glycol diacrylates; polyalkylene glycol dimethacrylates; ether polymers; carbonate polymers; acrylonitrile polymers; copolymers and crosslinked polymers consisting of at least two of them; and fluoropolymers.

10. (New) The electrode assembly of claim 5, wherein the gel polymer is coated on the separator by a gravure coating method.

11. (New) The electrode assembly of claim 5, wherein the separator has a gel polymer-coated part and a non-coated part patterned in a regular shape.

12. (New) The electrode assembly of claim 5, wherein the gel polymer is selected from the group consisting of polyvinylidene fluoride (PVDF); polyethylene glycol diacrylate; polyalkylene glycol diacrylates; polyalkylene glycol dimethacrylates; ether polymers; carbonate polymers; acrylonitrile polymers; copolymers and crosslinked polymers consisting of at least two of them; and fluoropolymers.